German Technological Assistance for Pollution Check

4335. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a German delegation visited New Delhi recently and held discussions on various pollution related issues;

(b) if so, the details of discussions held and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether Government have decided to seek technological aissistance from Germany to curb various pollution related issues; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir. A German delegation visited New Delhi from 28-7-2001 to 3-8-2001 and held discussions on pollution control related issues.

(b) A Round Table Conference was organised on 31-7-2001 at New Delhi on issues relating to control of pollution which included disposal of biomedical waste, hazardous waste, waste water treatment, air pollution, environment friendly technologies, clean technologies with specific reference to small scale industries.

(c) and (d) Government has decided to seek technological assistance from Germany wherever possible on detailed discussions in the areas of use of energy processor system in disposing bio-medical and hazardous waste and use of decentralised water treatment technology for installing Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs) in small eating houses/restaurants.

Environment Impact Assessment Studies in Karnataka

4336. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Government has requested for releasing Rs. 105 lakhs for conducting environment impact assessment studies and carrying capacity at Sandur Taluk, Bellary district; and

(b) if so, the details of action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The issue of comprehensive Environment Impact Assessment study in Bellary-Hospet region was taken up with the Ministry of Mines. They have informed that their Ministry as well as the Ministry of Steel are quite concerned about the need to enforce scientific mining in this region and it has been decided that a joint team of the Directorate of Mines and Geology, Government of Karnataka and Indian Bureau of Mines would be carrying out a detailed study of the Bellary-Hospet area and would suggest policy guidelines for renewal or grant of new mining leases in the area for further consideration by the Government.

In view of the above, the Karnataka Government has accordingly been informed on 1-5-2001, that separate study is not required.

Fishing Villages Affected due to Oil Leakage Off Bombay Harbour

4337. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an oil leak from the ONGC, LPG and crude oil terminal off Bombay harbour has affected fishing villages around the coast of Konkan;

(b) if so, the details of loss caused by it; and

(c) what steps have been taken to avoid such a tragedy in future?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) An incident of minor spillage of crude oil has been reported at ONGC's Uran Plant on 1st May, 2001. No adverse effect on the fishing villages or marine life has been noticed. To prevent recurrence of such leakage, measures such as creation of additional bund in the crude oil tank area and provision of additional oil traps in the storm water channels of ONGC have been taken up.

Permisson for Storage of Hazardous Materials

†4338. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI : Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi High Court has strongly criticised Government for giving permission for storage and construction related activities of hazardous materials, by amending Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ), 1991;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.